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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Toshinori NAGAHASHI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2173

Application No.: 10/734,244

Examiner: John W. CABECA

Filed: December 15, 2003

Docket No.: 118105

For: PICTURE LAYOUT PROCESSING APPARATUS, PICTURE LAYOUT PROCESSING METHOD, AND PROGRAM THEREFOR

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. The references 1-4 were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.
- ☒ 3. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.

- ☒ 4. References JP A 2001-126070 and JP A 2001-261649 were cited in an Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 15, 2003, therefore copies are not attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:LMS/emt

Date: January 17, 2006

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<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
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Sheet 1 of 1

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 118105		APPLICATION NO. 10/734,244	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS Toshinori NAGAHASHI et al.			
				FILING DATE December 15, 2003		GROUP 2173	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
	1	US 2002/0040375 A1	04/04/2002	Simon et al.			
	2	US 2002/0095439 A1	07/18/2002	Long et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
	3	EP 1 017 019 A2	07/05/2000	Europe			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	4	Christensen et al., "An Empirical Study of Algorithms for Point-Feature Label Placement," ACM Transactions on Graphics, Vol. 14, No. 3, pp. 203-232, July 1995					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: January 17, 2006